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Allen Welsh Dulles

Historians are already disputing over just what role Allen Welsh Dulles played in two of the most controversial incidents in recent U.S. history—the Bay of Pigs fiasco in Cuba and the loss of a U2 spy plane over Russia.

This discussion will continue although Mr. Dulles, a career diplomat, lawyer and intelligence director, died late Wednesday at 75 following an attack of the flu and pneumonia.

His greatest fame came during the nine years—1953 through 1961—that he was the boss of the super-secret Central

Intelligence Agency. The Bay of Pigs and U2 controversies rose during that time and while there are differences over whether Mr. Dulles used the right techniques in his CIA operations there never was—nor can there be—any doubts over his loyalty to his country.